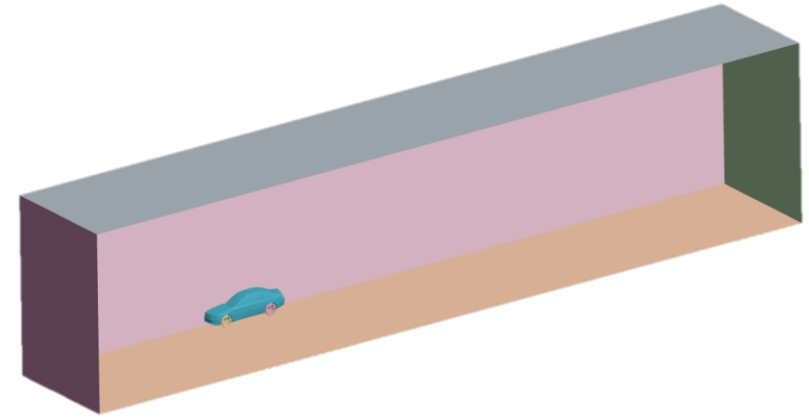


# AERODYNAMICS

## REAR VIEW CAMERA VS SIDE MIRROR



# OUTLINE

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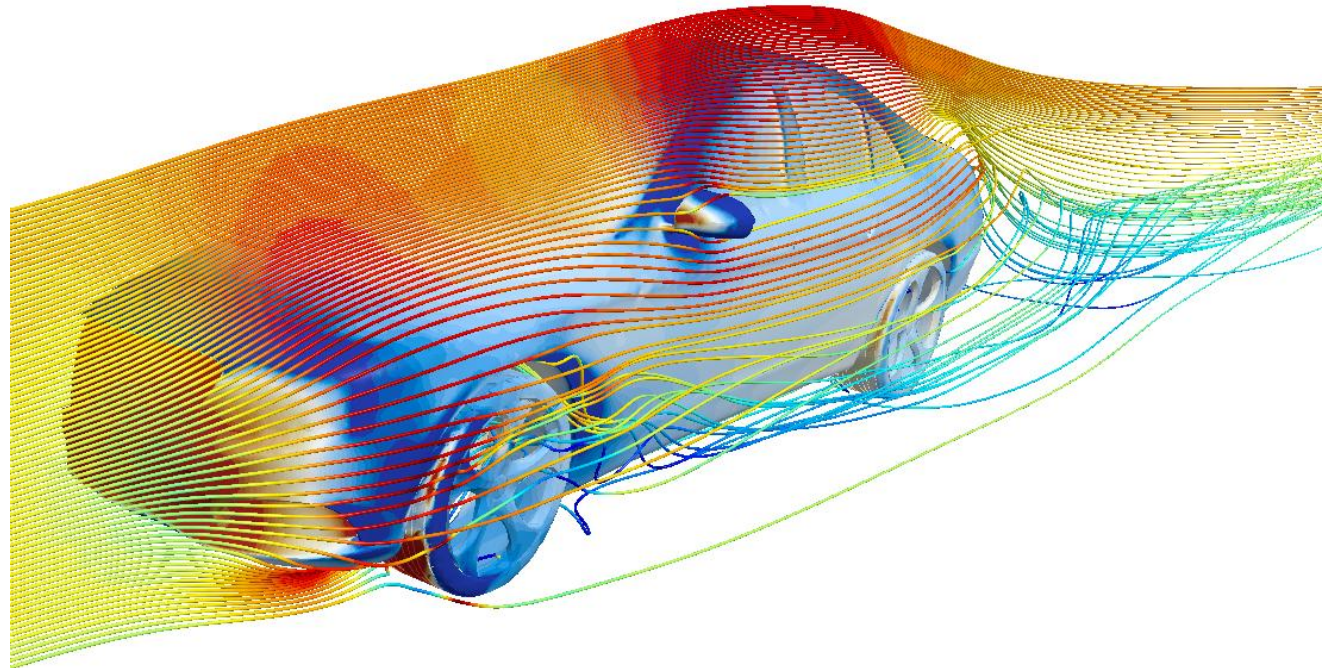
»» Targets

»» Problem illustration

»» State of art

»» Case study: CFD of  
Mercedes S Class 2013

»» Conclusion



# TARGETS

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**UNDERSTAND WHAT'S ALREADY DONE IN PREVIOUS RESEARCHES.**



**EVALUATION OF THE DRAG COEFFICIENT  $C_d$  WITH AND WITHOUT MIRRORS IN OUR CASE STUDY.**

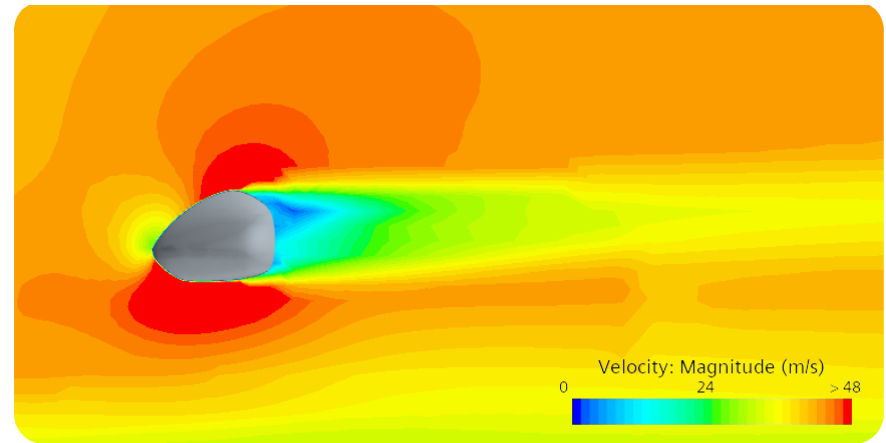
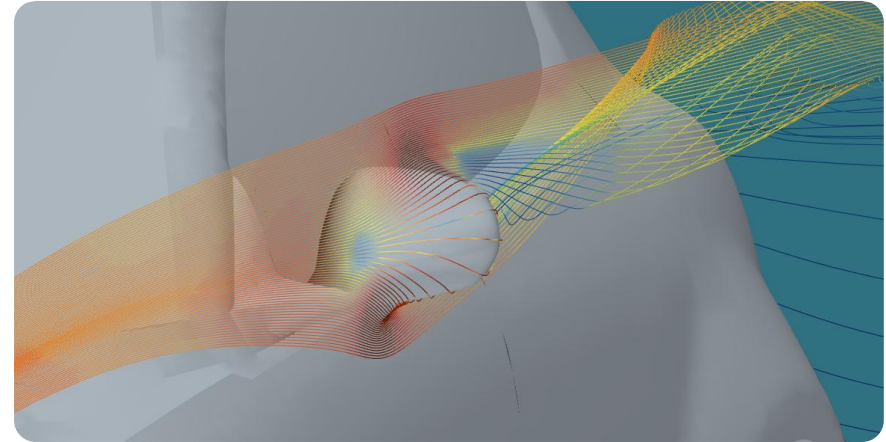


**COMPARISON OF THE PREVIOUS RESEARCH OUTCOMES WITH THE ONES FROM OUR CASE STUDY.**

# PROBLEM ILLUSTRATION

## TRADITIONAL SIDE MIRRORS

- **Drivability:** turbulences can affect vehicle stability.
- **Noise:** turbulences create noise, reducing cabin comfort at high speeds.
- **Drag:** high drag contribution decrease performance.
- **Energy efficiency:** higher emission and environmental impact due to higher fuel consumption.



# STATE OF ART

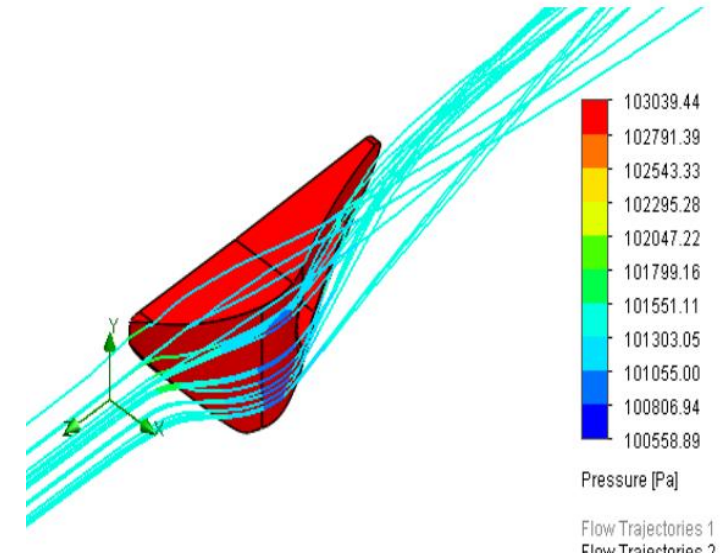
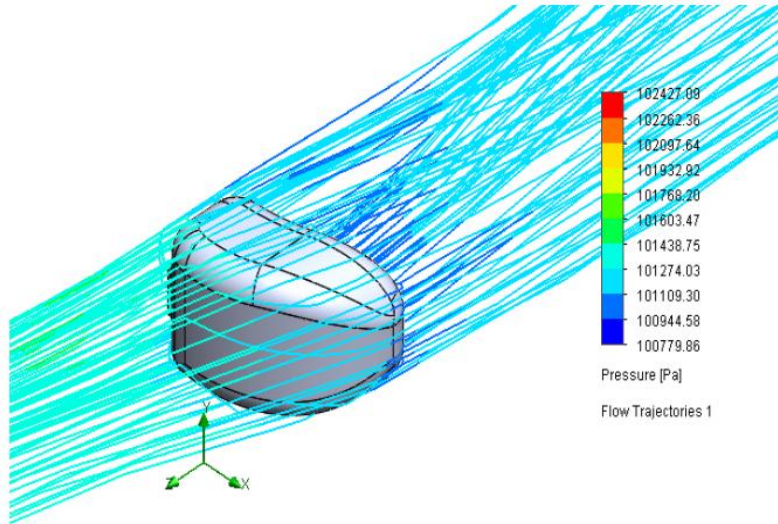
Comparison of results with and without mirror on a SUV leads to a  $\Delta C_d = -0.004$



| Model:                     | w/ mirror | w/o mirror |
|----------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Drag coefficient ( $C_d$ ) | 0.444     | 0.440      |
| Frontal area ( $m^2$ )     | 2.129     | 2.081      |

Source: Buscariolo, F.F., Rosilho, V. (2013). Comparative CFD study of outside rearview mirror removal and outside rearview cameras proposals on a current production car. SAE Technical Paper Series, 36-0298.

# STATE OF ART



| Traditional mirror |                        | Vortex shape camera |
|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| High               | Drag coefficient       | Low                 |
| Large eddies       | Flow behind the mirror | Laminar flow        |
| Bad                | Handling               | Good                |
| Standard           | Visibility             | Better              |

Source: Ahsan, N. Ahmad, M. Mehmood, H. Matloob, S (2021). Comparative Study and Design of outer body drag of Conventional Side-View Mirror and Vortex Side Camera using CFD. (EJAST) European Journal of Applied Science and Technology-Novus.

# CASE STUDY

## TARGET

Comparison between **mirror** and **without mirror** configurations

Negligible effect of rear-view cameras on **drag coefficient** → rear-view camera can be approximated to a configuration without side mirrors

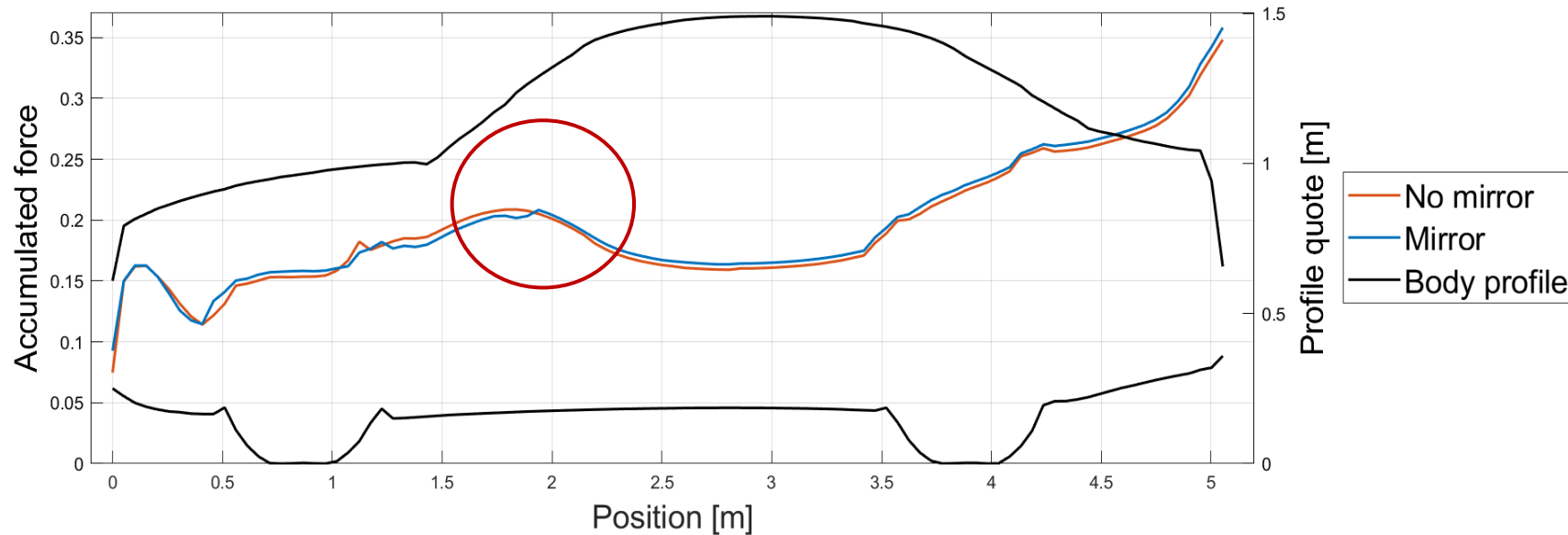


| Vehicle    | Model            | Mercedes S class 2013 |
|------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Mesh       | Base size        | 25 mm                 |
|            | Type             | Trimmed               |
| Test bench | Wheel            | RRS                   |
|            | Wind speed       | 38,89 m/s             |
|            | Turbulence model | $k - \varepsilon$     |



# CASE STUDY - RESULTS

Development of the cumulative drag coefficient on the Mercedes S Class profile



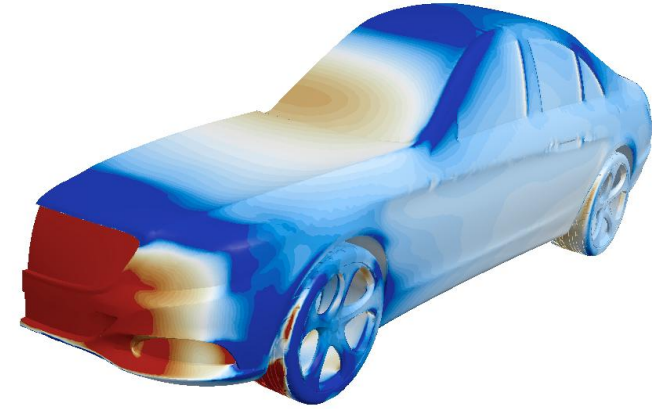
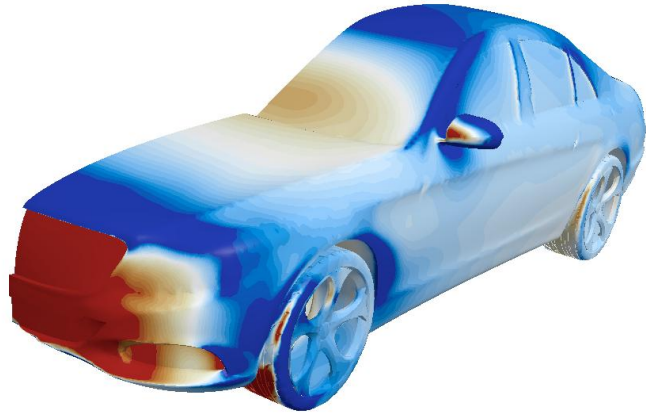
| Model:                 | w/ mirror | w/o mirror |
|------------------------|-----------|------------|
| $C_d$                  | 0.358     | 0.331      |
| Frontal area [ $m^2$ ] | 1.220     | 1.193      |

In the mirror zone, a higher drag recovery is observed for the model without mirror.

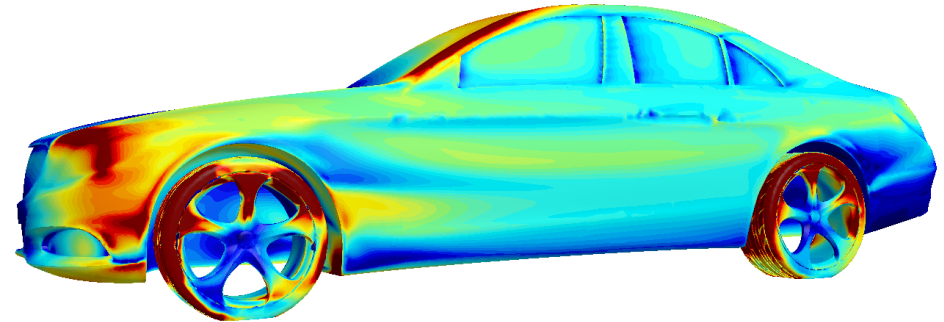
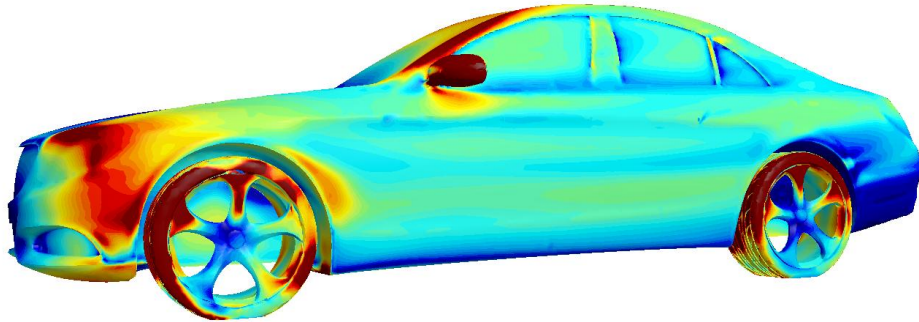


# CASE STUDY - RESULTS

PRESSURE  
COEFFICIENT

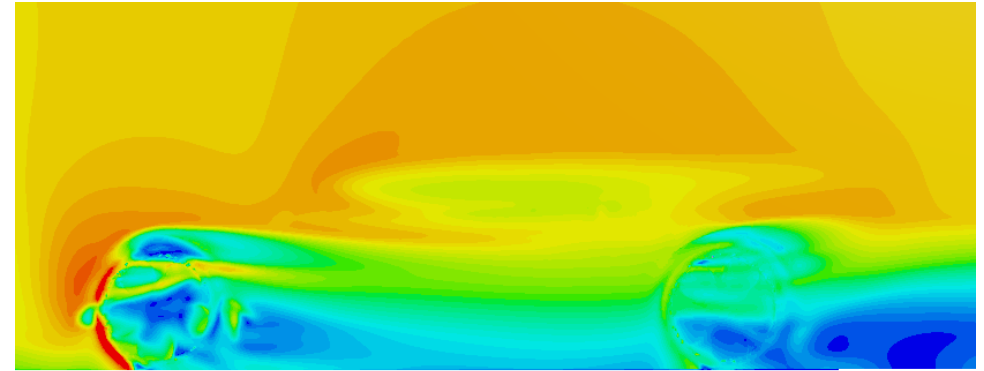
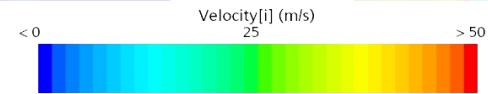
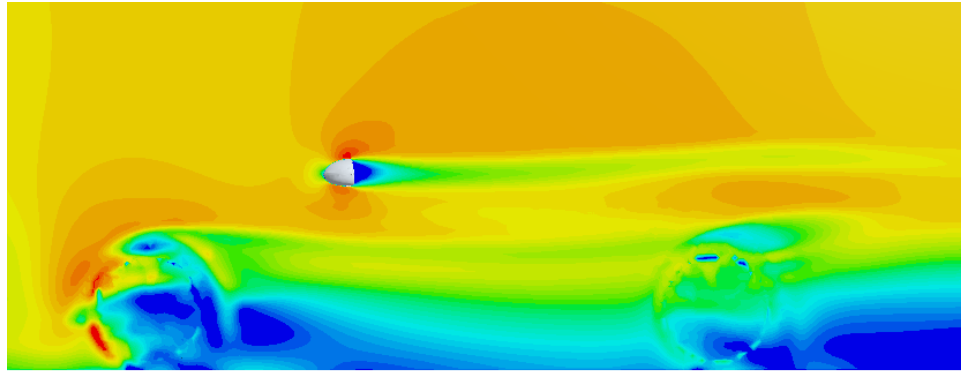


SKIN FRICTION

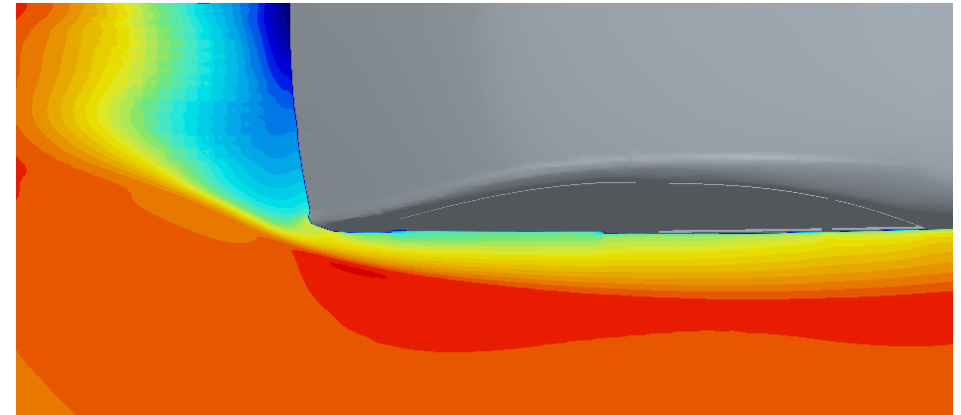
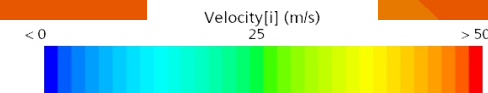
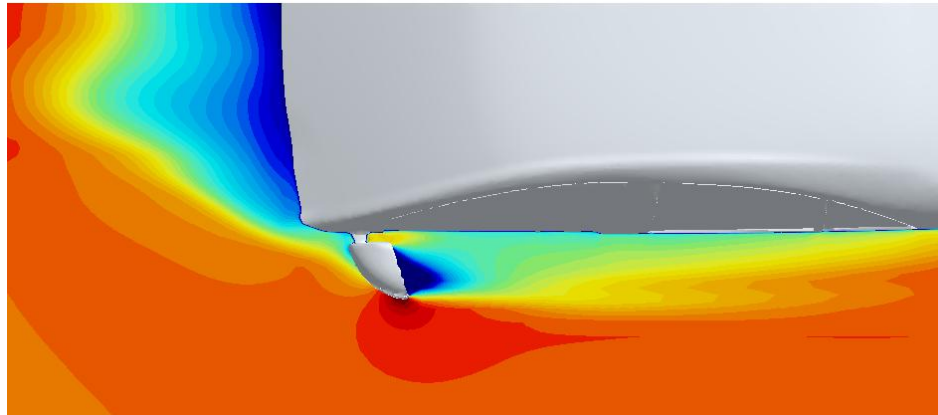


# CASE STUDY - RESULTS

VELOCITY FIELD  
SIDE VIEW



VELOCITY FIELD  
TOP VIEW



# CONCLUSIONS

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**Drag:** the gain in terms of drag coefficient depends on the type of the vehicle. A without-mirror configuration (and consequently a rear view camera adoption) leads to more consistent improvement of  $C_d$  on utility car rather than SUV.



**Rear view camera:** is easily used as aerodynamics profile, to improve  $C_x$  of the vehicle.



**Improvements:** the result accuracy and understanding of mirror impact can be improved using a detailed vehicle model and varying wind speeds.

# THANKS FOR THE ATTENTION

## QUESTIONS?